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FAX

**To: Examiner Uzma Alam, USPTO
Art Unit 2157**

FAX number 571-273-8300

From: N. K, Ouchi

Dated May 16, 2008

Ref: 09/974,594

9 Pages plus cover letter

Examiner Alam ....

A Word document of this response can be sent to you by e-mail. Please send
me an e mail at Kon.Ouchi@Avidtooo.oom and I will send the file in a reply.

After reading the current submission, may we have a discussion at your
convenience? My phone number is 408-757-5862

Thank you for your assistance.

N. K. Ouchi

Response to USPTO Office Action of March 20, 2008

Confirmation Number: 7077

Examiner: Uzma Alam

Art Unit: 2157

Title: File Based Workflow System and Methods

Application Number: 09/974,594

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

Date: May 16, 2008

Action is Final

Claims 21-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ghoneimy et al U.S. Publication 20040078373.

Ghoneimy does not teach defining classifications of workflow user accessible files nor attachment or downloading of files based on the classification of files using a workflow. The workflow distributing apparatus of Ghoneimy teaches the use of adapter programs, usually in the form of files, to adapt the workflow engine to files systems, database systems, presentation systems, etc. so that the workflow can be configured to execute in a wide range of environments . While Ghoneimy provides for the classification of adapters, programs stored as files, these files are not accessible by the workflow users and not attached or downloaded by users; Ghoneimy does not teach the classification of a file for attachment or download nor providing a workflow step which specifies a file of a designated file classification to be attached or downloaded by a workflow user as claimed by the present invention.

The present invention differs significantly from Ghoneimy et al U.S. Publication 20040078373

Discussion